

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Tsunenori ARAI et al.

Title: SHEATH REMOVAL HOLE  
CLOSING DEVICE USING  
LASER WELDING  
SCHEME

Appl. No.: 10/589,803

International Filing Date: 2/21/2005

371(c) Date: 8/17/2006

Examiner: Jeffry Brian LIPITZ

Art Unit: 3769

Confirmation Number: 2407

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**  
**TRANSMITTAL**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. This RCE and the enclosed items listed below are being filed prior to the earliest of: (1) payment of the issue fee (unless a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.313 is granted); (2) abandonment of the application; or (3) the filing of a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit under 35 U.S.C. §141, or the commencement of a civil action under 35 U.S.C. §145 or §146 (unless the appeal or civil action is terminated).

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114: (check items that apply)

a. Previously submitted:

[ ] Please enter and consider the amendment and/or reply previously filed on \_\_\_\_.

[ ] Please consider the Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) previously filed on \_\_\_\_ but not considered.

[ ] Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply previously filed on \_\_\_\_.

[ ] Other \_\_\_\_.

b. Enclosed are:

[ X ] Amendment/Reply.

[ ] Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s).

[ ] Information Disclosure Statement.

[ ] Form PTO/SB/08 with copies of \_\_\_\_ listed reference(s).

[ ] Other .

Miscellaneous:

[ ] Suspension of action of the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_ months.

The filing fee is calculated below:

	Claims as Amended	Previously Paid For	Extra Claims Present	Rate		Fee Totals
RCE Fee 1.17(e):				\$810.00	=	\$810.00
Total Claims:	5	-	20 = 0	x \$52.00	=	\$0.00
Independents	1	-	3 = 0	x \$220.00	=	\$0.00
First presentation of any Multiple Dependent Claims:			+	\$390.00	=	\$0.00
				CLAIMS FEE TOTAL:	=	\$810.00

[ ] Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for the total number of months checked below:

[ ]	Extension for response filed within the first month:	\$130.00	\$0.00
[ ]	Extension for response filed within the second month:	\$490.00	\$0.00
[ ]	Extension for response filed within the third month:	\$1,110.00	\$0.00
[ ]	Extension for response filed within the fourth month:	\$1,730.00	\$0.00
[ ]	Extension for response filed within the fifth month:	\$2,350.00	\$0.00
	EXTENSION FEE SUBTOTAL:		\$0.00
	EXTENSION FEE ALREADY PAID:	-	\$0.00
	EXTENSION FEE TOTAL:		\$0.00
	CLAIMS AND EXTENSION FEE TOTAL:		\$810.00
[ ]	Small Entity Fees Apply (subtract ½ of above):		\$0.00
[ ]	Suspension of action requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c)		\$0.00
	TOTAL FEE:		\$810.00

The above-identified fees of \$810.00 are being paid by credit card via EFS-Web.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment instructions in EFS-Web being incorrect or absent, resulting in a rejected or incorrect credit card transaction, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney or agent at the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 2 November 2010

By S. A. Bent

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Stephen A. Bent  
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